

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 05451 300229Z

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SUBJECT: UN FINANCE: FIFTH COMMITTEE APPROVES DRAFT REPORTS
ON ITEMS 94 AND 102 AS WELL AS SECTIONS 5 (A AND B) OF
PROGRAM BUDGET AND DISCUSSES VARIOUS PROGRAM ITEMS

REF: USUN 5411

1. SUMMARY: AT ITS 1724TH MEETING ON OCTOBER 29, TH COMMITTEE
APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION DRAFT REPORTS ON ITEMS 94 (A/C.5/L.1234-
FINANCIAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS) AND 102 (A/C.5/L.1235-SCALE OF
ASSESSMENTS). AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION COMMITTEE APPROVED PB SECTION
5(A) (DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS) BY VOTE OF
77-7(SOV BLOC)-1(US) IN AMOUNT OF \$42,042,800 FOR 1976/77; ALSO
PB SECTION 5(B) (INFO AND RESEARCH CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPS)
BY VOTE OF 88-0-0 IN AMOUNT OF \$1,188,600 FOR 1976/77.
POLISH FRENCH AND US DELS DISCUSSED USE OF EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.
REMAINDER OF SESSION WAS DEVOTED TO SPEECHES ON SECTION 21 (OFFICE
OF PUBLIC INFORMATION). ON OCTOBER 30, COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER:
A) UNEF/UNDF FINANCE (A/C.5/1237/REV.1); B) BUDGET SECTION 22;
C) HONORARIA (A/C.5/1236/REV.1); D) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS,
AND E) SECTION 21 (OPI). END SUMMARY

2. COMMITTEE APPROVED TWO DRAFT REPORTS ON ITEMS 94 AND 102
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 05451 300229Z

(SEE SUMMARY.).

3. ON PB SECTION 5(A), DEL OF BELGIUM SAID HIS GOVERNMENT PLEDGED \$8 MILLION FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION THIS YEAR AND WOULD SOON INCREASE IT BY 33 PERCENT. HE ASKED ABOUT TOTAL PERMANENT STAFF FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION, AND SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WISHED MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF MONEY DEVOTED TO PROJECTS AND MINIMUM AMOUNT FOR ADMINISTRATION. INDIAN DEL SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT TO TELL FROM DOCUMENTS WHAT TRUE VOLUME OF WORK IS, THAT AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY COMPETENT IN MATTER OF PROGRAMMING IS NEEDED, AND COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND COORDINATION (CPC) COULD PLAY ROLE, AND THAT HE SUPPORTS RECOMMENDATIONS OF WORKING GROUP ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET MACHINERY FOR CPC. BUDGET DIRECTOR SAID HE WOULD RESPOND TO BELGIAN QUESTION LATER; IN REPLY TO INDIA, AGREED THAT PB IS FAR FROM PERFECT, BUT THAT IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO MEASURE ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

4. UNESCO DEL REPLIED TO QUESTION BY PHILIPPINE, FRENCH AND JAPANESE DELS CONCERNING OVERLAPPING AND DUPLICATION BETWEEN UNESCO AND UN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. CALLED ATTENTION TO DOCS. E/5661 AND CORR, WHICH WERE APPROVED BY ECOSOC. SAID COORDINATION WITHIN SYSTEM HAS IMPROVED OVER YEARS, ESPECIALLY IN FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO DOCUMENT FOR USE AT FEBRUARY MEETING CONCERNING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN UN SYSTEM. SAID UNESCO PARTICIPATES IN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPMENT (ACAST), COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION (ACC), AND SERVES AS SECRETARIAT FOR ALL THREE BODIES. ADDED THAT UNESCO WILL HELP IN PREPARING CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND HE HOPED SECRETARIAT FOR CONFERENCE WILL BE A JOINT ONE IN UN SYSTEM.

5. COMMITTEE APPROVED PB SECTIONS 5(A) AND (B) IN FIRST READING (SEE SUMMARY).

6. COMMITTEE COMMENCED IN DISCUSSION OF USE OF EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS IN UN SYSTEM (A/C.5/1681). CHAIRMAN OF ACABQ IN ORAL REPORT SAID TASKS ASSIGNED TO EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS NEED TO BE CLEARLY DEFINED AND THAT UN SHOULD REDUCE NUMBER OF THESE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 05451 300229Z

PERSONNEL BY USING AVAILABLE EXPERTISE WITHIN SECRETARIAT. POLISH DEL EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH SLOWNESS OF SYG IN IMPLEMENTING GA DECISION. HE REQUESTED AN AD HOC REPORT BY ACABQ.

7. US DEL (BACHE) MADE BRIEF STATEMENT PER DEPT'S A-6594, OCTOBER 22. FRENCH DEL ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT DELAYS IN IMPLEMENTATION. ACABQ CHAIRMAN MSELLE PROPOSED SYG REPORT

TO 31ST GA RATHER THAN ACABQ REPORT TO 30TH GA. BUDGET DIRECTOR LAVAU SAID SECRETARIAT AWAITING REACTION OF DIVISIONS USING EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS BEFORE CIRCULATING DRAFT OF ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS. CHAIRMAN THOMAS ASKED THE POLISH DEL TO DRAFT DECISION REQUESTING SYG REPORT TO 31ST GA.

8. PROGRAM BUDGET SECTION 21 (OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION). PHILIPPINE DEL COMMENDED OPI, URGED IT TO INCREASE ACTIVITIES (E.G. PUBLICITY FOR HABITAT CONFERENCE) AND ASKED FOR MORE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM RICH COUNTRIES. ITALIAN DEL EMPHASIZED NEED FOR INFORMATION CENTER DIRECTORS WHO KNOW THE LOCAL AREA AND CAN COMMUNICATE WITH LOCAL LEADERS. SWEDISH DEL PRAISED OPI AND EXPRESSED REGRET AT ACABQ REJECTION OF TRANSFER OF CESI POSTS TO REGULAR BUDGET.

9. UK DEL IN PERSUASIVE STATEMENT, EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION. HE SAID OPI SHOULD NOT TELL PEOPLE "WHAT TO THINK, BUT WHAT TO THINK ABOUT." HE SAID CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION OUGHT TO MEET MORE OFTEN. SAUDI ARABIAN DEL (AMBASSADOR BAROODY) GAVE USUAL HARANGUE, COMPLAINING THAT, DESPITE EXCELLENT WORK OF IPI AND OF CORRESPONDENTS, WORLD PRESS COVERAGE OF UN WAS MEAGRE. BAROODY EXPRESSED WISH THAT MASS MEDIA WOULD ESTABLISH CODE OF ETHICS AND LIKE PHYSICIANS, EXPEL CHARLATANS.

10. FRG DEL EXTOLLED FREE PRESS AS ONE OF THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS OF WESTERN SOCIETY. HE EMPHASIZED THAT ROLE OF OPI IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WAS SIMPLY TO ASSIST EXISTING MEDIA, WHILE OPI ROLE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES INVOLVES MORE FUNDAMENTAL ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS WRITING ARTICLES AND MAKING FILMS. FRG DEL SUPPORTED ACABQ RECOMMENDATIONS AND WELCOMED JAPAN TO RANKS OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTORS TO CESI.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 05451 300229Z

10. ARGENTINE DEL URGED INCREASE IN OPI ACTIVITY. FRENCH DEL EMPHASIZED NEED TO SET PRIORITIES AND PRAISED THEMATIC APPROACH AS STEP IN THIS DIRECTION. HE OPPOSED TRANSFER OF CESI POSTS TO REGULAR BUDGET AND OPPOSED EARLIER TUNISIAN PROPOSAL THAT OPI ACTIVITIES BE REVIEWED IN BODY OTHER THAN FIFTH COMMITTEE. MOYNIHAN

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